262 and central Finland, is the apple tree. Cultiva-
245 tion of pear, plum and cherry trees is limited to the southeastern corner of the country, and even at best it is not very profitable.

515] Basically the Finns are a physically strong
164 race, and cleanliness is traditional. But the harsh climate, especially the absence of the sun during the long winter, has contributed to the prevalence of some diseases, especially tuberculosis. Epidemic diseases are not common. There has not been a single case of smallpox for two decades, typhus epidemics are rare, and since vaccination became available, diphtheria has greatly decreased. Polio, on the other hand, has been increasing. Leprosy has completely dissappeared, so that the hospital for that disease has been closed. During the time of Finland's independence much progress

●164 has been made in the fight against tuberculosis, but the war period caused the mortality rate for this disease again to go up. In 1900 the death rate for tuberculosis was 23 per 10,000 each
[744] year; in 1936 it had decreased to 16. After the war the country was divided into 25 TB districts, each headed by a tuberculosis specialist whose sole duty is to fight this disease with the best
[745] methods available. The total number of beds in the large, modern TB hospitals is at present 5,700.

165 The following table shows the annual causes of mortality in the period 1941-45:

I. Infant diseases	2,000
II. Diseases of old age	5,736
III. Infectious diseases	11,501
1. Typhoid	117
2. Paratyphoid	100